

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 COME-00
EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 EPG-02
SIL-01 OMB-01 DHA-02 DIWY-01 ACDA-07 DLOS-09
OES-07 /158 W
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R 251300Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6408
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KINGSTON 3970

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR JM
SUBJ: PATTERSON REVIEWS JAMAICA'S FOREIGN POLICY RELATIONS

REF: KINGSTON 3888

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER P.J. PATTERSON SPOKE IN PARLIAMENT ON JULY 20 ON JAMAICA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS, USING THE OCCASION TO PROVIDE A TOUR D'HORIZON OF JAMAICAN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS. REGARDING POLITICAL MATTERS (SEPTELS DEAL WITH ECONOMIC ASPECTS), THE FOREIGN MINISTER DEALT PRIMARILY IN CONCEPTUAL TERMS RATHER THAN PROVIDING A DETAILED REVIEW OF BILATERAL RELATIONS. THE SPEECH WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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REMARKABLY BALANCED. THE MUTING OF THIRD WORLD RHETORIC AND LIMITED REFERENCES TO CUBAN-JAMAICAN RELATIONS, FOUND SOLELY IN HIS COMMENTS ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS, WERE PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE POLITICAL PORTIONS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPEECH, ONE OF A SERIES TO BE MADE BY CABINET MEMBERS REGARDING

THEIR WORK, DEALTH WITH THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE UNDERLYING JAMAICA'S FOREIGN POLICY --A SOLID COMMITMENT TO NON-ALIGNMENT. IN DEVELOPING HIS THEME, PATTERSON SAID THAT THE POLICIES OF THE PRESENT JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT HAVE "TWO UNSHAKEABLE PILLARS": "...DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM AT HOME AND...NON-ALIGNMENT ABROAD." HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM IN JAMAICA IS PREDICATED ON A NEED, AMONG OTHERS, TO INSTILL A SENSE OF INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE DOMESTICALLY. "THE EXTERNAL MANIFESTATION OF THIS IDEA (OF INDEPENDENCE) IS NON-ALIGNMENT. NON-ALIGNMENT IS MAINLY AN EXTENSION OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE TO THE EXTERNAL SPHERE. NON-ALIGNMENT FREES US FROM THE OBLIGATION TO SLAVISHLY COPY FOREIGN MODELS AND IDEOLOGIES. IT ALLOWS US TO PURSUE AN INDEPENDENT AND POSITIVE FOREIGN POLICY BASED ON OUR COMMITMENT TO ESTABLISHING DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM AT HOME IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE." PATTERSON NOTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN DOMESTIC RESISTANCE TO NON-ALIGNMENT FROM "THOSE WHO HAD TRADITIONALLY BENEFITTED FROM AN UNEQUAL, UNJUST AND EXPLOITATIVE STRUCTURE." BUT, EVIDENCING THE BALANCE HE INTENDED HIS ADDRESS TO CARRY, HE ADDED, "AT THE SAME TIME, WE ARE ALERT TO THOSE WHO JUSTIFIABLY CONDEMN THE STRUCTURE AND ITS IMPERIALIST LINKAGES, BUT ALWAYS SEEM PREPARED TO SUBSTITUTE FOR IT NEWER AND MORE SUBTLE FORMS OF EXTERNAL DEPENDENCE."

3. MOVING ON, PATTERSON STRESSED THAT, JUST AS JAMAICA SEEKS
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SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR ITS CITIZENS, IT SUPPORTS POSITIONS EXTERNALLY WHICH SEEK THE SAME END. IT PRESSES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ORDER; IT IS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED TO RACIAL DISCRIMINATION "SUCH AS APARTHEID"; IT HAS BEEN IN THE FOREFRONT "IN THE DISCUSSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN." REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS, JAMAICA SEEKS "TO STRESS THE OBVIOUS: THAT HUMAN RIGHTS GO BEYOND THE ASSURANCE OF FUNDAMENTAL POLITICAL LIBERTIES TO THE GUARANTEE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE..." "FREEDOM FROM WANT AND POVERTY CONSTITUTES...AN INDISPENSABLE HUMAN RIGHT." MOREOVER, SOCIO-ECONOMIC JUSTICE "DEPENDS SIGNIFICANTLY ON THE WILLINGNESS OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS TO ACCEPT THE CALL OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR...A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. THEIR RESISTANCE IN THIS REGARD PRESENTLY CONSTITUTES THE GREATEST THREAT TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS."

4. AS PATTERSON MOVED FROM THE GENERAL TO THE PARTICULAR, ALBEIT BRIEFLY, HE TOUCHED FIRST ON THE ISSUE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. COMMENTING CANDIDLY, HE SAID, "IT IS THE VIEW OF THIS GOVERNMENT THAT THE INTENSIFICATION OF THE ARMED STRUGGLE CONSTITUTES THE ONLY HOPE FOR A VICTORY OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENT OF THE PEOPLES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA." AFTER NOTING THAT

JAMAICA CAN OFFER NO TANGIBLE MILITARY SUPPORT AND THAT ITS FINANCIAL SUPPORT CAN BE ONLY "NOMINAL", HE ADDED, "...WE INTEND TO PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT THROUGH A PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRAINING IN THE VARIOUS AREAS REQUESTED BY THE PATRIOTIC FRONT."

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KINGSTON 3970

5. AFTER CONDEMNING NATIONS WHICH MAINTAIN ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO PROVIDE "MILITARY SUPPORT THROUGH THE SALE OF ARMS", PATTERSON COMMENTED ON "SOME OF THE MORE IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS...IN (JAMAICA'S) FOREIGN RELATIONSHIPS."

--"DURING THE YEAR THERE HAS BEEN A NOTICEABLE IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES." AFTER NOTING THAT HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON, FOLLOWED BY MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO JAMAICA, "SERVED TO REMOVE MANY OF THE TENSIONS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS WHICH EXISTED UNDER THE PREVIOUS UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION", HE SAID THAT, "BOTH COUNTRIES CAN NOW LOOK FORWARD TO THE PROSPECTS OF RESTORING CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS

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BASED ON A MUTUAL RESPECT FOR SOVEREIGN INDEPENDENCE."

--"OUR INITIATIVES TOWARDS EXPANDING AND DEEPENING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND THE COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE" WERE COUNTED AMONG OTHER "SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS". ELEVATION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION TO AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL, FOLLOWED BY THE OPENING OF A SOVIET EMBASSY IN KINGSTON, AND "PLANS TO OPEN A JAMAICAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW BY THE END OF THIS YEAR" ARE IMPORTANT STEPS. (SEE ALSO REFTEL.)

--"OUR RELATIONS WITH CANADA, THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF WESTERN EUROPE CONTINUE TO BE STRENGTHENED AND WE HAVE ALSO MAINTAINED CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA."

--"ABOVE ALL, WITHIN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND THE GROUP OF 77, WE CONTINUE TO FOSTER THE CLOSEST RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN OUR COMMON STRUGGLE AGAINST COLONIALISM, IMPERIALISM, AND RACISM AND FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC JUSTICE AND EQUITY."

6. AS HE BROUGHT THE POLITICAL PORTION OF HIS FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPEECH TO AN END, PATTERSON STRESSED THAT JAMAICA HAS CONTINUED TO PLAY "A MAJOR ROLE" IN THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE, AND NOTED THE IMPORTANCE WHICH HIS GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO THE "ADMINISTRATION, SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THAT AREA OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AND OCEAN FLOOR LYING BEYOND THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION". HE WENT ON TO VOICE JAMAICA'S HOPE THAT THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY WILL BE HEAD-QUARTERED IN KINGSTON AND ADDED, "WE HAVE ALREADY SECURED THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE GROUP OF 77, AND WE HAVE PROMISES OF SUPPORT FROM A LARGE NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AS WELL."
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7. COMMENT: THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S ADDRESS, PARTICULARLY AS DEMONSTRATED BY ITS POLITICAL PORTION, WAS MUCH MORE EVEN-HANDED THAN ANY OTHER GOJ FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENTS OF THE RECENT PAST. IN PART, IT REFLECTS THE PERSONALITY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER HIMSELF, WHO IS FAR MORE PRAGMATIC THAN HIS PREDECESSOR, SENATOR DUDLEY THOMPSON. IT ALSO IS INDICATIVE OF THE MUCH INCREASED SENSE OF REALISM WITHIN JAMAICAN GOVERNMENT. THE MANLEY GOVERNMENT CAN HARDLY BE EXPECTED TO

ABANDON ITS EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN ITS IDENTIFICATION WITH THE THIRD WORLD AND ITS COMMITMENT TO NON-ALIGNMENT. HOWEVER, IT APPEARS TO HAVE RECOGNIZED THAT REITERATION OF THE MORE EXTRAVAGANT THIRD WORLD RHETORIC CAN PROVE TO BE A LUXURY WHICH JAMAICA CAN ILL-AFFORD. SIMILARLY, IT APPEARS TO HAVE CONCLUDED THAT NON-ALIGNMENT IS MORE EFFECTIVE WHEN IT INVOLVES AN EVEN-HANDED APPROACH TO PROBLEMS AND CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF THE POLICIES WHICH WILL BEST PROMOTE JAMAICA'S INTERESTS.

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